

The report observes that as an example of rural development this is unique in the history of South Africa. The important fruit and vegetable industry, as also the local mining industry of the Eastern Transvaal, will be assured of regular supplies of timber in the near future.

During the year ended March 31, 1938, the area planted to trees by the Forestry Division totalled 14,451 acres, bringing the total area of Government plantations at that date to 339,242 acres. The area of the State's forest reserve was increased by 175,788 acres and at March 31, including the Railway reserve, amounted to 3,323,000 acres, a large proportion of which is suitable for afforestation.

Most of the past year's planting was again done in the Transvaal Conservancy, where 7,377 acres were put down to trees. The principal species in all conservancies were conifers (11,614 acres), eucalyptus (1,419 acres) and acacias (1,292 acres).

The number of transplants sold from the State nurseries during the year was 3,681,000, as compared with 3,899,000 in 1936-37. It may be noted that as plants are also obtained from private nurseries and as many farmers raise plants in increasing quantities for their own use as well as for sale, the number sold by the Forest Department is no longer the full index of private enterprise in tree-planting.

Timber and timber products to the value of £3,013,000 were imported into the Union during the year ended June 30, 1938. Exports for the same period were valued at £115,000.

### Railways and Road Motor Services.

No new railway lines were opened for traffic in the Union during the year under review. At June 30, 1938, the following new lines were under construction, all in the Transvaal Province:—

<i>Lines under construction</i>	<i>Approximate length.</i>	<i>Estimated date of completion.</i>
Germiston—Jupiter, double track	3 miles	December, 1939.
Crown—Langlaagte ....	3 miles	October, 1939.
Midway—Bank ....	21 miles	December, 1938.

The open lines mileage operated by the South African Railways in the Union and South-West Africa at June 30, 1938, totalled 13,894 miles, including 680 miles of privately-owned lines leased or operated by the South African Railways under agreement.

*Road Motor Services.*—During the year 11 new routes or extensions of existing routes, totalling 126 miles, were introduced in the Transvaal, whilst services on two routes, totalling 15 miles, were withdrawn.

At June 30, 1938, the route mileage of road motor services—

In the Transvaal, including Swaziland, was	....	....	3,423
In South-West Africa	....	....	805
In the Union	....	....	12,835
Total for the Union	....	....	13,640

The amount of traffic conveyed in the Transvaal was 1,862,000 passengers, 92,178 tons of general goods, and 175,071 gallons of cream. Ninety-seven vehicles were operating in the Transvaal at June 30, 1938, as compared with 95 at June 30, 1937.



### Roads and Bridges.

The total expenditure on provincial and district roads in the Transvaal for the year ended March 31, 1938, and allocations by the Provincial Administration for the year 1938-39 are shown in the following table:—

	<i>Expenditure 1937-38.</i>	<i>Allocations 1938-39.</i>
District Roads:		
Construction and maintenance ....	£349,219	£399,035
Provincial Roads:		
Construction ....	354,077	400,450
Maintenance ....	105,428	122,430
	<hr/> £808,724	<hr/> £921,915

Particulars of the foregoing for individual districts have been furnished by the Provincial authorities and are obtainable from your secretary's office.

The aggregate mileage of new roads constructed by the Transvaal Administration during the year ended March 31, 1938, was 1,939, of which 1,863 miles were gravel and earth roads and 76 miles tar-macadam.

Your Committee are informed that progress on national roads in the Transvaal up to June 30, 1938, is equivalent to the undermentioned completed work:—

	<i>Previous year.</i>
Roads surveyed ....	300 miles
Gravel roads constructed ....	190 "
Bituminous surfacing ....	117 "
National roads proclaimed during the year	" of

this report.

Your agents report that the condition of the main roads in the Northern Transvaal is good but that district roads and roads off the beaten track generally are in a bad state of repair, particularly in the North Waterberg District. The Great North Road is reported to be badly corrugated in many places. Your Committee trust that the necessary improvements will receive the early attention of the roads authorities.

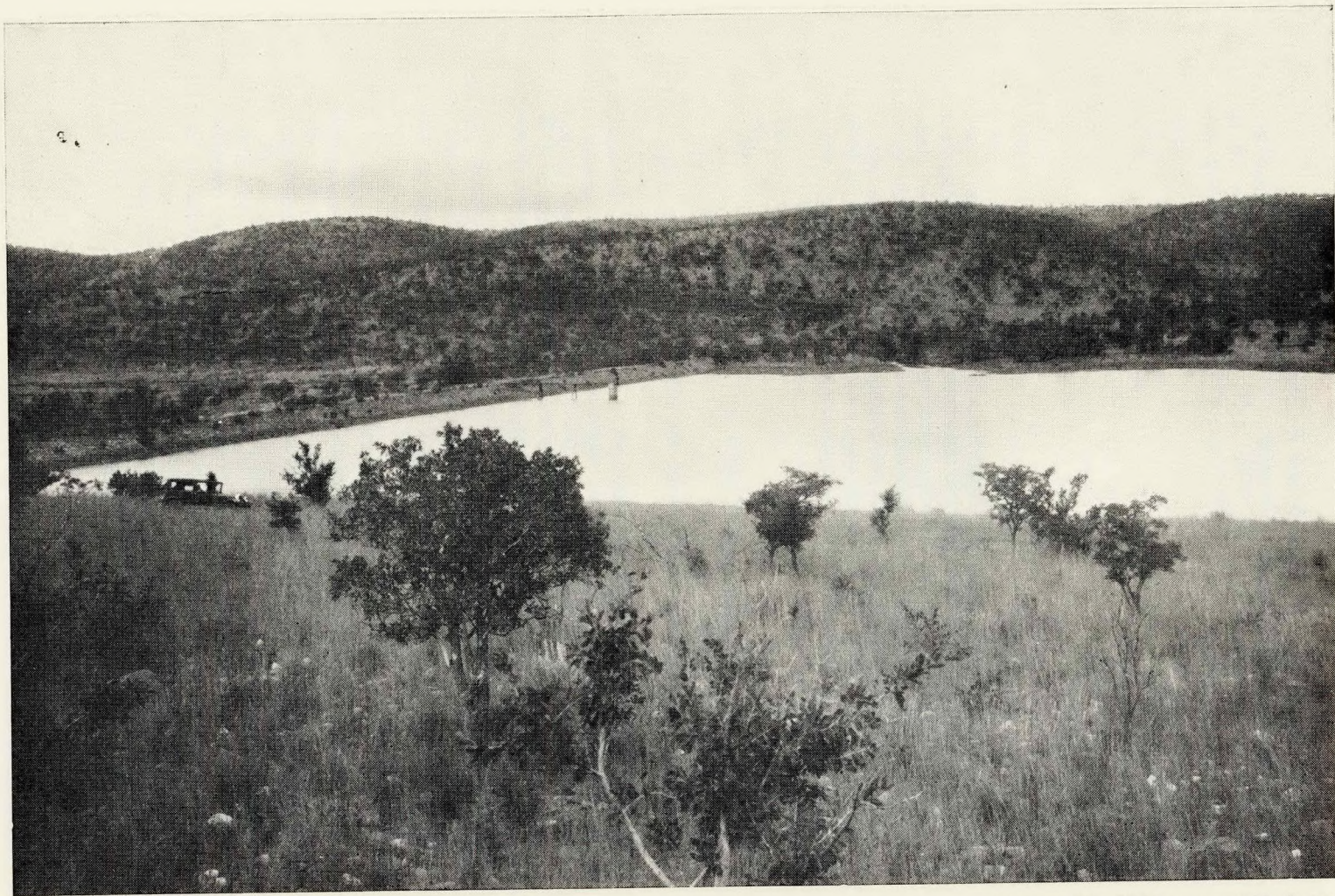
*Bridges.*—Thirty-seven new major bridges were completed in the Transvaal during 1937-38 at a total cost of £41,870. The programme for 1938-39 provides for the construction of 54 new bridges in various districts, for which a sum of £52,442 has been allocated.

### Telegraph-Telephone Extensions.

Further extensions of the system in the areas in which your members' farms are situated were made during the year. Ten new telegraph-telephone offices, six additional trunk offices, seventeen new telephone exchanges and fourteen additional farm party lines were opened in various districts. Particulars of the above services and a number of rural telegraph and telephone extensions, farm party lines, etc., included in the construction programme for the new financial year, have kindly been furnished by the Postmaster-General and may be obtained at your secretary's office.

Your Association has been assured by the Department that all outstanding applications for public extensions and farm party lines in the Northern Transvaal are being borne in mind for consideration when future programmes of construction are being prepared.





*BISCHOFF'S DAM, WARMBATHS, Transvaal.*

*Photo: S.A. Railways and Harbours.*



### **Native Trust and Land Act, 1936.**

The provisions of Chapter IV of this Act were applied as from April 15, 1938, to the District of Lydenburg, with the exception of the Scheduled Native Areas and Released Areas and certain farms specified.

The proclamation affected a number of your members' farms, some of which were under occupation, and your Committee took steps, in consultation with the owners concerned, to register the native occupants in terms of the law. In the case of three farms the owners decided not to retain the tenants, who were accordingly given due notice to quit, and a detailed list of such tenants, with their families, was furnished by your Association to the Native Affairs Department at the latter's request.

Lydenburg is the first district to be selected for proclamation under the Act, and your Committee are informed that when it is possible to gauge the effect of the operation of the chapter in Lydenburg the Government will consider the position in other districts.

### **District Agency.**

The number of farms under the supervision of the Association at June 30, 1938, was 836, as compared with 877 at the previous June 30. This total excludes 66 farms which form part of the Association's game preservation scheme in the Pilgrimsrest District.

During the year under review your agents made 1,400 visits to farms for revenue work, land settlement, inspection of fencing, location of beacons and other purposes, and an aggregate of 580 days was spent by the whole-time agents on trek, an average of 145 days per agent for the year. In the Rustenburg Agency 127 days were spent on trek by the part-time agent. As compared with the previous year's collections, the rental returns showed an increase of 24 per cent., due to good crops reaped by natives and better prices received for their stock.

No alteration of agency boundaries was effected during the year.

Your Committee again wish to record their appreciation of the good work done by the Association's agents during the year under review.

### **Natives.**

Your agents report that, generally, the health amongst the natives was good, and malaria practically non-existent except in the Potgietersrust Agency during one period and also along the Limpopo River.

The year was an excellent one for livestock, the quality of the grazing being satisfactory throughout the winter in practically all the northern areas. Native cattle fetched good prices during the year, and 35/- per 100 lbs. dressed weight was at one time paid for cattle of the compound class. On the whole fair crops were reaped, and prices for grain were favourable. Rent collections were satisfactory, especially of arrears in the northern districts, which had unavoidably increased owing to the droughts of the previous years. A large number of native tenants left the farms to seek work.



### **Locusts.**

It is satisfactory to record that no serious infestation of locusts occurred during the year under review. The appearance of red flying swarms was reported by some of your agents in October and November, but the swarms disappeared and no hatchings occurred on members' farms.

The efforts of the Imperial Institute of Entomology to fight the locust plague are described in a report by the Committee on Locust Control, issued by the Economic Advisory Council as a Blue Book.

A further international locust conference to include delegates from all States and Territories concerned in the war on locusts has been convened to be held at Brussels in August, 1938.

A complete settlement in respect of the 1933-34 locust claims against members was made during the year with the payment to the Government of the last outstanding account.

### **Game Preservation.**

Your Association's two special organisations for the protection of game in the Sabi Reserve Annex, Pilgrimsrest District, were continued throughout the year with satisfactory results. Good work was done by the special game protection staff in checking the depredations of white and native poachers, and a number of convictions under the game laws was secured. The game is reported to be in excellent condition and in the southern area, in numbers and variety, to compare favourably with any similar-sized section of the Kruger National Park. Amongst the various species of game which are reported to be on the increase are kudu, impalla and zebra. An appreciable increase in the number of lions in the area is also noted.

For his bravery in coming to the assistance of Ranger L. E. O. Lownds when attacked by a lion, Native Shoes, of the ranger's staff, was presented by the Association with a suitably inscribed watch and belt. The presentation was made by Col. J. Stevenson Hamilton, Warden of the Kruger National Park, on behalf of the Association on January 28, 1938.

The following are the honorary supervisors, and on behalf of the members concerned your Committee again desire to record their appreciation of the good services rendered by them: Messrs. P. W. Willis, D.C.M., E. H. Whittingstall, W. G. Rogers and J. E. Hey.

In a case heard before the Supreme Court, Pretoria, Section *ten* of the Game Preservation Ordinance, 1935, was declared *ultra vires*. This section deals with the wilful trespass on land of a person whilst in possession of firearms, and the Supreme Court judgment rested on the argument that its provisions do not in any way qualify the land or the purpose of the trespass. The section is regarded as one of the landowners' most important safeguards under the Ordinance, and the matter has been taken up by your Committee with a view to the necessary amendment to the law being effected.

Under Section *nine* of the Game Ordinance, the owner of land is permitted to destroy game thereon which is causing damage to trees, plants or standing crops. In connection with a question which arose an interpretation of the words "trees, plants or standing crops," and their application to grazing land, was sought and found in a judgment in the Appellate





*KUDU, E. Transvaal.*

*Photo: P. W. Willis.*

Division to the effect that the words apply to vegetation which has been cultivated and not to natural herbage.

It is of interest to note that the sale of game biltong is now illegal in the Orange Free State, and similar legislation is in contemplation by the Natal Provincial Administration. When this legislation is passed the sale of game biltong will be illegal throughout the Union.

Your Committee again wish to record their thanks to the Wild Life Protection Society of S.A. for its good work in the interests of game preservation.

### **Mineral Developments.**

The number of applications dealt with by the Government under its scheme for assistance to small mines, to June 30, 1938, was 249, of which 200 were from Transvaal applicants. Assistance was recommended in the case of 81 applications, 142 were refused or withdrawn, and 26 were awaiting further investigation.



A sum of £250,000 was provided on the 1937-38 estimates to finance the scheme, but information regarding the amount advanced to approved applicants is not available. It is understood that a further sum of £200,000 under this head has been provided on the 1938-39 estimates.

**CORUNDUM.**—The deposits from which this mineral is at present produced are mainly located over a wide area in the Pietersburg District of the Transvaal, the bulk of production being in the form of crystal corundum which, to ensure uniformity of quality for export, is subject to a system of Government grading.

Progress in the corundum industry is retarded by the absence of proper machinery to treat the plumasite, and it is reported that to assist producers the Government is giving serious consideration to the erection of crushing plants at suitable centres in the producing areas.

During the year 2,179 tons of corundum, valued at £17,221, were exported from the Northern Transvaal, as compared with 3,000 tons, valued at £23,559, for the year ended June 30, 1937. The average value per ton for 1937-38 was £7.903 and for 1936-37 £7.853. Over 90 per cent. of the product is shipped to the United States.

### Exports and Imports.

Agricultural and pastoral products exported from South Africa during the year ended June 30, 1938, were valued at £22,852,000, as compared with £24,042,000 exported during the previous year. Wool showed the largest decline in the exports, being valued at over £5 millions less than the preceding year; butter decreased by £306,000, and hides and skins by £454,000. Maize and maize meal increased by £3,607,000, fruit (fresh and dried) by £905,000 and sugar by £690,000.

Articles of food and drink exported were valued at £11,381,000, an increase over the previous year of £4,548,000. The total value of food and drink imported increased by £181,000 to £5,293,000.

The total value of all goods, including gold, exported by the Union to overseas countries during the year amounted to £116,741,000, whilst imports from overseas countries totalled £101,434,000, as compared with £109,139,000 exports and £93,587,000 imports for 1936-37.

### Parliamentary Estimates.

The main vote estimates of expenditure from revenue and loan funds, 1938-39, for the Agricultural and other State Departments in which your Association is more particularly interested, are given in the following table. Revised estimates for the previous year are shown for comparative purposes.

<i>From Revenue Funds.</i>	1938-39.	1937-38.
Agriculture and Agricultural Education	£2,152,705	£1,807,157
Forestry	270,410	251,173
Lands, Deeds and Surveys	589,105	458,271
Irrigation	344,000	273,385
Assistance to Farmers	1,726,000	1,776,000
District Mining Development	232,300	282,300

Provision has been made in the Agricultural Vote of £100,000 for locust destruction, a decrease of £50,000 as compared with the previous

year. The Assistance to Farmers Vote includes provision for subsidies to farmers for the purchase of bulls in cattle improvement areas, amounting to £100,000.

<i>From Loan Funds.</i>	<i>1938-39.</i>	<i>1937-38.</i>
Agriculture ....	£486,050	£772,000
Forestry ....	330,000	630,000
Lands and Settlements ....	1,955,000	1,800,700
Land and Agricultural Bank ....	750,000	1,000,000
Assistance to Farmers ....	2,000,000	3,005,000
Irrigation ....	1,544,500	1,982,409
Grant to the South African Native Trust	2,000,000	1,000,000

### **Government Departments.**

Your Committee acknowledge their indebtedness to the Union Government and Provincial Council for the assistance given by the various Departments and desire to place on record their appreciation of the help given by Government officials on all occasions your Association has approached them.

A. P. RICHTER, *Chairman.*

J. S. D. DEY

J. DAVIDSON

R. W. TOWNSEND

A. WHITTAKER

L. W. MEADLEY

A. G. DOUGLAS

W. NELSON

A. H. ROBERTSON

B. MOSES

C. L. ANDERSSON

H. C. KOCH

*Members  
of  
Committee.*

A. D. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

Johannesburg,

17th November, 1938.



## NATIONAL ROADS.

Roads Proclaimed under the National Roads Act, No. 42 of 1935.  
Nylstroom—Naboomspruit—Potgietersrust.  
Bronkhorstspuit—Witbank.  
Klerksdorp to the common boundary of the farms Wolwerand No. 55 and Elandslaagte No. 67.  
Paardekop—Volksrust.

## UNION GOVERNMENT PROCLAMATIONS.

- 162—1937 Incorporation of farm Vereeniging No. 3 in the Kruger National Park.  
165—1937 Division of Ward Marabastad.  
192—1937 Excision of certain land from Released Area No. 29.  
229—1937 Adjustment of Released Area No. 11.  
264—1937 Application of provisions of Chapter IV of Native Trust and Land Act to District of Lydenburg.  
(Amended by Proclamation No. 43—1938).  
271—1937 Division of Ward Heidelberg.  
21—1938 Incorporation of farms Dargai No. 403 and Alma No. 453 in the Kruger National Park.  
29—1938 Fencing Act, 1912, applied to Ward Witwatersrand, District of Pretoria.  
32—1938 Division of District of Krugersdorp into new wards.  
39—1938 Division of District of Johannesburg into new wards.  
40—1938 Division of Ward Brits.  
47—1938 Division of Ward Zwartuggens.  
48—1938 Division of District Ventersdorp into new wards.  
49—1938 Division of Wards Ermelo and Amsterdam.  
62—1938 Division of Ward Potgietersrust.  
68—1938 Division of Ward Pretoria.  
108—1938 Withdrawal and addition of farms, Released Area No. 25.

## PUBLICATIONS.

### UNION GOVERNMENT.

- U.G. 41—1937 Annual Report of the Department of Native Affairs, 1935-36.  
U.G. 48—1937 Report of the Native Affairs Commission, year 1936.  
U.G. 53—1937 Report of the Division of Forestry, year ended March 31, 1937.  
U.G. 3—1938 Report of the Director of Irrigation, year ended March 31, 1937.  
U.G. 4—1938 Report of the Irrigation Commission, year ended March 31, 1937.  
U.G. 16—1938 Report of the Central Board of the Land and Agricultural Bank, year 1937.  
U.G. 17—1938 Report of the Government Mining Engineer, year 1937.  
U.G. 19—1938 Report of the Department of Lands, year ended March, 1937.  
U.G. 1, 14, 29 Parliamentary Estimates, Revenue and Expenditure, year ending & 38—1938 March 31, 1939.

### PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF THE TRANSVAAL.

- T.P. 11—1937 Report of the Department of the Provincial Roads Engineer, 1936-37.  
T.P. 2—1938 Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending March 31, 1939.  
T.P. 3—1938 Estimates of Capital Expenditure for the year ending March 31, 1939.

### OFFICE OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS.

Official Year Book of the Union of South Africa, No. 18, 1937.  
Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics.  
Report No. 121. Transfers of Rural Immovable Property, year ended March 31, 1938.  
(Special Report Series).



#### DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

"Trade of the Union of South Africa and South-West Africa." (Quarterly).  
Statement of the Trade and Shipping of the Union of South Africa and the Territory  
of South-West Africa. (Annual).

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.

"Farming in South Africa." (Monthly.)  
"Crops and Markets." (Monthly.)

#### DEPARTMENT OF MINES.

Monthly Statistics.  
Industrial Minerals. (Quarterly.)

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

British Ministry of Agriculture Journal. (Monthly.)  
British Cotton Growing Association, Annual Report, 1937.  
Review of Imported Dairy Produce Trade, 1937-38. (Weddel & Co.)  
Central Landowners' Association, Quarterly Journal.  
Warden, Kruger National Park, Annual Report, 1937.  
National Parks Board of Trustees, Annual Report, 1937.  
"Veld." (Every two months.)  
Botanical Society of South Africa, Annual Report, 1937.  
S.A. Food Canners' Council, Information (Statistical) Bulletin.  
"Rhodesian Agricultural Journal." (Monthly.)  
Report of Chief Veterinary Surgeon (S. Rhodesia), 1937.  
S.A. Journal of Economics. (Quarterly.)



# TRANSVAAL LAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

Dr.	BALANCE SHEET as at 30th JUNE, 1938.		Cr.
To SUNDRY CREDITORS .....	£10 19 5	By OFFICE FURNITURE AND LIBRARY (Book Value)	£6 0 0
„ INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT .....	1,676 1 2	Balance as at 30th June, 1937 .....	£66 4 10
Credit balance as at 30th June, 1937 .....	£1,843 10 4	Add: Additions during the year .....	51 6 10
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure for year ended 30th June, 1938, as per attached account .....	582 10 10		117 11 8
	2,426 1 2	Less: Depreciation .....	111 11 8
Less: £750 Union of South Africa 4% Local Registered Stock, 1951, trans- ferred to T.L.O.A. Provident Fund .....	750 0 0	„ SUNDRY DEBTORS .....	496 5 7
„ T.L.O.A. PROVIDENT FUND, per contra .....	750 0 0	„ TRUST ACCOUNT .....	43 10 3
		„ £750 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA 4% LOCAL REGISTERED STOCK, 1951 .....	750 0 0
		„ INTEREST ACCRUED .....	30 0 0
			780 0 0
		„ T.L.O.A. PROVIDENT FUND, per contra .....	750 0 0
		£750 Union of South Africa 4% Local Registered Stock, 1951.	
		„ CASH .....	361 4 9
		At Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., Johannesburg, Current Account .....	98 4 5
		At Savings Accounts .....	262 3 8
		In Hand .....	16 8
	£2,437 0 7		£2,437 0 7

A. P. RICHTER, *Chairman.*

A. D. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

We have audited the above Balance Sheet and we report that in our opinion it is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the affairs of the Association at the 30th June, 1938, according to the Books and the information given to us.

Johannesburg,

3rd September, 1938.

ROBERTS, ALLSWORTH, COOPER BROTHERS & CO.,

Chartered Accountants (S.A.), *Auditors.*



# TRANSVAAL LAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

Dr.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30th JUNE, 1938.

Cr.

To SALARIES AND BONUS TO STAFF ....	£1,296 14 6	By SUBSCRIPTIONS ....	£1,053 3 0
" OFFICE RENT ....	155 0 0	" COMMISSION ON RENT COLLECTIONS ....	692 18 0
" GENERAL CHARGES, including Printing and Stationery, Stamps and Telegrams, Travelling Expenses, Bank Charges and Insurance ....	£356 12 4	" INTEREST ....	64 15 7
Less: Recovered from Members ....	89 1 8	" FEES FROM FARM SALES ....	630 14 10
	267 10 8	" SUNDRY ....	27 8 3
" DEPRECIATION ....	111 11 8		
" AUDIT FEE, for year ended 30th June, 1937	42 0 0		
" LAW CHARGES ....	3 3 0		
" SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS ....	10 9 0		
" BALANCE, being excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended 30th June, 1938, carried to Balance Sheet	582 10 10		
	<u>£2,468 19 8</u>		<u>£2,468 19 8</u>

Examined and found correct,

ROBERTS, ALLSWORTH, COOPER BROTHERS & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants (S.A.), Auditors.

Johannesburg,

3rd September, 1938.

A. P. RICHTER, *Chairman.*

A. D. PARSONS, *Secretary.*



# TRANSVAAL LAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

## TRUST ACCOUNT.

Dr.

### BALANCE SHEET as at 30th JUNE, 1938.

Cr.

To SUNDRY MEMBERS ....	£976 7 8	By CASH ....	£1,327 1 1
Revenue received and accrued, not yet distributed.		At Agency Banks and in hands of Agents	£829 2 2
„ TRANSVAAL LAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION ....	43 10 3	At Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., Johannesburg	497 18 11
Commission, etc.			
„ GAME PROTECTION ....	293 15 4		
Pilgrimsrest, General Fund ....	£162 4 7		
Sabi, Private Ranger Fund ....	131 10 9		
„ LOCUST DESTRUCTION FUND ....	13 7 10		
	<u>£1,327 1 1</u>		<u>£1,327 1 1</u>

A. P. RICHTER, *Chairman.*A. D. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

We have audited the above Balance Sheet and we report that in our opinion it is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the position of the Trust Account of the Association as at 30th June, 1938, according to the Books and the information given to us.

Johannesburg,  
3rd September, 1938.

ROBERTS, ALLSWORTH, COOPER BROTHERS & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants (S.A.), *Auditors.*



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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*The Thirty-fifth Annual General Meeting of Members of the Transvaal Land Owners' Association was held in the Board Room, Lewis and Marks Building, President Street, Johannesburg, on Friday, 25th November, 1938, at 11 o'clock a.m.*

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Mr. A. P. Richter (representing the Transvaal Gold Mining Estates, Ltd.) presided, and there were present Messrs. H. Cameron (New Transvaal Gold Farms, Ltd.), J. Davidson (Henderson's Transvaal Estates, Ltd.), J. S. D. Dey (South African Townships, Mining and Finance Corporation, Ltd.), A. G. Douglas (Central South African Lands and Mines, Ltd.), W. L. Ellis (Transvaal Lands Co., Ltd.), A. F. Heim (Transvaal Consolidated Land and Exploration Co., Ltd.), B. Moses (Transvaal and Delagoa Bay Investment Co., Ltd.), W. Nelson (Sir Abe Bailey, Bart., K.C.M.G.), J. Saenger (Messrs. Sacke and Saenger), A. J. Shimwell, R. W. Townsend (African and European Investment Co., Ltd.), J. B. Whitehouse (W. and H. Investments (Pty.), Ltd.), A. Whittaker (Oceana Development Co., Ltd., Northern Transvaal Lands Co., Ltd., and Lydenburg Estates, Ltd.), Lieut.-Colonel Sir Llewellyn Andersson, O.B.E., and A. D. Parsons (Secretary).

The Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted and the notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

The Secretary read the Auditors' report, and on the motion of the Chairman the annual report of the Executive Committee, which had previously been circulated, was taken as read.

*The Chairman said:*

Gentlemen,

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting I have to refer with the deepest regret to the deaths of four members of our Association during the year under review—namely, of Mr. H. W. Blair, Mr. G. A. Chalkley, Mr. B. T. Bourke and Mr. J. D. Herholdt. Mr. Blair and Mr. Herholdt had only recently joined the Association. Mr. Chalkley always took a keen interest in the study and preservation of the game of this country, and Mr. B. T. Bourke was a member of that fast dwindling band of pioneers who have laid the foundations on which others are now building.

This is the Thirty-fifth Annual General Meeting of our Association.

I have pleasure in submitting to you for adoption and approval the Report of your Executive Committee and the Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 1938, which have been in your hands for some days.

## ACCOUNTS.

If you will turn for a moment to the accounts, you will observe that revenue during the year exceeded expenditure by £582 10s. 10d. This favourable balance is due to the item of £630 14s. 10d. on the revenue side which represents the fee of  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  paid to the Association by members in respect of farms in Released Areas sold by them to the South African Native Trust. There has also been a substantial improvement in the native rentals collected, with a corresponding increase in the Association's commission on these collections. Expenditure during the year shows a small increase of £26 12s. 5d. on last year's expenditure, which is solely due to our having provided the relatively large sum of £111 11s. 8d. for depreciation. Furniture and library now stand in our books at £6.

For some years the Committee has had under consideration the question of providing on a moderate scale a Provident Fund for its secretarial staff, in recognition of their long and efficient services. The increased revenue earned by the Association during the year has made it possible for the Committee to inaugurate such a Fund. An amount of £750 has been transferred from reserve for this purpose, and it is intended to augment this initial payment by annual contributions of £75. I am sure that members will approve of the Committee's action in this matter, which is provided for in our Constitution and conforms with the general practice adopted by employers on these fields to make some provision for their servants when they retire.

The report which is before you deals not only with the many and varied interests of the Association, but also gives a general survey of the agricultural activities in the Union, particularly in the Transvaal. Conforming with the usual practice at our Annual General Meetings, I propose to refer briefly to some of the matters covered by the Report.

## MEMBERSHIP.

The membership of your Association shows little change. A total of 79 members are on the register, representing over  $7\frac{1}{2}$  million acres in the Union, as against a total representation of nearly 9 million acres last year. A total of 836 farms are now under the Association's supervision in the Transvaal, as against 877 farms during the preceding year. The decreases are due to sales by members. In addition, 66 farms in the Pilgrims Rest district are superintended and patrolled by the organisation established by the Association for the protection of game in that district.

## SALES OF LAND.

A considerable increase in land transactions is to be recorded throughout the Union during the period under review. According to Government statistics, the total area transferred during the year ended March, 1938, was 16,750,000 acres, as against a total of 14,366,000 acres during the previous year. The increased activity is largely due to the acquisition by the South African Native Trust of land in the Released Areas for native purposes and to the purchase by the Union Government of farms outside Released Areas for white settlement.

Members of the Association have had a satisfactory share in these transactions. Sales of land by members during the year under review



amounted to no less than 1,270,000 acres, of which 189,765 are situate in Released Areas and were sold to the South African Native Trust. This figure of 1,270,000 acres was exceeded only once in the history of our Association—namely, 19 years ago during the fictitious boom following the Great War. It will assist members to appreciate the magnitude of this figure when I tell you that the land sold by them during the year is in extent approximately equal to the English counties of Lancashire or Norfolk, and to the Transvaal magisterial districts of Standerton or Carolina. Since 1919 to date our members have sold nearly 6½ million acres of land, which in area compares with the whole magisterial district of Zoutpansberg. The number of farms let to white tenants by members of the Association has also increased very considerably during recent years.

I am quoting these figures not only because they are gratifying evidence of success, but also in order to emphasize how inept and uninformed the criticism, sometimes levied against us, is—namely, that land companies are deliberately pursuing a policy of locking up land in expectation of higher prices. In point of fact a comparison of our prices with those secured by others continues to show that our prices are well below the average level recorded in Government publications for the respective districts.

#### THE NATIVE TRUST AND LAND ACT 1936.

The Native Trust and Land Act embodies a long range policy, which has been adopted by the country after years of deliberation and discussion, the policy of segregation. It intends to make history, and history will in turn pass judgment on the manner in which it has been carried out. As with all policies, success will depend not on the written words of the law, but on the spirit with which it is administered.

Under the Act the South African Native Trust is authorised to acquire for native purposes 7,250,000 morgen in the Union, of which 5,028,000 morgen are situate in the Transvaal. Of the 5,028,000 morgen in the Transvaal approximately 908,000 morgen are owned by members and associated members of the Association. The Government has estimated that £10,000,000 will be required for the acquisition of all the land to be included in the various Released Areas in the Union and has indicated that more money will be provided if required.

The Trust has to date either purchased or is committed to the purchase of 1,149,054 morgen in the Union, at a total cost of £3,883,884. Of the land so purchased 932,004 morgen, absorbing £2,233,682, or an average of 48s. per morgen, are situate in the Transvaal. The ground acquired by the Trust in the Transvaal from members to date totals 132,211 morgen, the total cost being £183,718, equal to an average of 27s. 9d. per morgen. These figures show that much yet remains to be accomplished. The acquisition of land for the natives is merely the beginning of the task which the country has undertaken and the immediate beneficiaries from the expenditure which has been incurred so far are not the natives but the sellers of land, whoever they may be. The Act contemplates development of native settlements on the land so purchased. Work in connection with the establishment of these settlements in the "Released Areas" has now been started by the Government and its progress will be watched with very great interest, for the policy of segregation will depend for its success far more on these developments than on the mere acquisition of land.



Meanwhile the Government has taken action under Chapter IV. of the Act and has applied by proclamation the provisions of that Chapter to the district of Lydenburg as from the 15th April, 1938. As stated in the report, the necessary steps were taken by your Committee to comply with the terms of the proclamation in respect of those farms of members which are affected. Up to the present only the Lydenburg district has been selected for the application of the Chapter, and apparently the Government have experienced considerable difficulty in administering its provisions. The aim of the Chapter is to restrict the number of labour tenants and by levying increasingly heavy taxation on any owner on whose land so-called native squatters reside, to eliminate such squatters wholly, over a period. Native squatters are natives who are not labour tenants or servants but who hire land for themselves and for their stock.

In the case of the Lydenburg district, it was originally provided that a labour tenant must render four months' service, but this period was subsequently increased by the Government on representations from farmers to six months. It is understood that the natives in most cases refused to accept the longer contracts and are leaving the district. To meet the position it is now stated that farmers are urging the Minister to apply Chapter IV. to adjoining districts, and according to a recent Press report, the Minister has decided to appoint Committees in each district throughout the Transvaal consisting of the Magistrate and six farmers to gather data and to test public opinion. Should the provisions of Chapter IV. be proclaimed over the whole Transvaal a very large number indeed of natives with their stock will have to be moved to the "Scheduled" and "Released Areas." These areas are nowhere yet completely under the control of the Trust and they are in no way ready to receive such a large influx. In terms of the Act the Native Affairs Department is responsible for the accommodation of natives who might be displaced by reason of the operation of Chapter IV. Incidentally it may be mentioned that no land has yet been acquired by the Trust in the Lydenburg section of the Released Area.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN CATTLE INDUSTRY.

An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease occurred during the year in the Barberton district near the Portuguese border. Drastice but effective measures were immediately taken by the Government and there is every reason to believe that the outbreak has been definitely stamped out. Two outbreaks of east coast fever in the Eastern Transvaal were also satisfactorily dealt with by the authorities. This Association has repeatedly urged that, in the interests of the cattle industry, energetic steps must be taken to eliminate the tick from our herds. Although draft legislation has been prepared by the Government to deal with this problem, this legislation has not yet been submitted to Parliament. This delay is greatly to be regretted, for the importance of the cattle industry to the Union, and especially to the Northern Transvaal, cannot be over emphasized.

It has been estimated that at least 85 per cent. of the surface of the Union is suitable for pasturage only. In the Northern Transvaal the percentage is probably higher. These unalterable conditions clearly indicate that cattle farming must be the mainstay of the rural population in the Northern Transvaal. One would therefore have expected to see every possible effort concentrated on the building up of a sound cattle industry.



Further areas have been proclaimed cattle improvement areas under Act 48 of 1934, but otherwise there are few signs that such a policy is being pursued wholeheartedly.

For various reasons the position of this industry is still far from satisfactory. The total cattle population of the Union is estimated at approximately 10 million head, and of these about one half are owned by natives. Practically all native-owned cattle can be classified as "scrub," for the native unfortunately persists in regarding his cattle as tokens of wealth rather than as agents of production. A large proportion of cattle owned by whites in the Northern Transvaal are little better than "scrub." The main reason for the existence of so many scrub cattle and the chief drawbacks of the industry in South Africa are poor nutrition and also tick-borne diseases. It is estimated that nearly half a million cattle die annually in the Union from starvation or disease. Nor is this the whole story, for the productive capacity of the surviving animals is also gravely affected by bad nutrition. Improving the breed of our cattle, on which much money is being spent to-day, and at the same time neglecting the feeding of our herds will lead us nowhere. Indeed it might rightly be said that only "scrub" cattle can survive under-feeding conditions such as unfortunately obtain over large areas of the country to-day.

Much energy is at present dissipated on growing crops for export under subsidies, although it is becoming more and more difficult to retain any market that may be secured. These crops would be much more usefully employed in feeding our herds. Estimates are notoriously unreliable in South Africa, but I have seen it stated that many times the amount of maize normally exported would be required yearly as supplementary feed to maintain the country's present animal population in satisfactory condition. Our yield of maize per acre is very low when compared with other countries, and it is therefore open to question whether it is wise to starve our important and promising cattle industry in order to obtain a precarious footing in overseas markets for maize. Under present South African conditions we clearly cannot both build up a sound cattle industry and at the same time export our maize. The remedy is co-ordination between our cattle and other agricultural industries.

I venture the opinion that the cattle industry will, in the future, be far more important for this country than the export of cereals. For, trying to look ahead, what are the signs overseas? All nations, under whatever forms of Government they live, are for various reasons fostering their own agriculture for the production of cereals, and again, for many reasons, it is doubtful whether this policy, so universally adopted, will change for a long time to come. There is, however, very much less room in congested Europe for expansion of animal industry. The probabilities therefore are that, whilst our market in cereals overseas will contract, our export of beef will in time expand. But more and more attention will have to be paid to quality. Mere quantity will be at a discount. A successful cattle industry able to meet the conditions which are likely to arise in future, must be based on adequate feeding and must therefore be co-ordinated with our agriculture. What can be done on these lines has been demonstrated by private individuals or concerns, some of whom are members of our Association. But much more than individual efforts are required, and the eradication or effective control of the tick is an elementary measure which is long overdue.



## AFFORESTATION.

There are, as we know to our cost, so many setbacks which from time to time retard the progress of farming in South Africa, that it is eminently satisfactory to be able to point to one branch which has made truly extraordinary progress within recent years—I refer to afforestation in the Eastern districts of the Transvaal. In 1923 there were only two Government plantations in that area, aggregating 685 acres. To-day there are 25 Government afforestation centres in the Eastern Transvaal of a combined area of nearly 70,000 acres, and this acreage is being extended at the rate of nearly 10,000 acres per annum. In addition to these Government afforestation schemes there are numerous and very extensive private plantations. This gratifying progress has brought in its train further satisfactory developments which promise to reward the enterprise of the pioneers in these districts. Under the auspices of the Union Corporation, Ltd., a paper manufacturing industry has been established at Geduld. The South African Pulp and Paper Industries, Ltd., will shortly begin operations which are designed to produce at the rate of 14,000 tons of paper per annum. The new industry offers a market not only for the pinewood of the Eastern Transvaal, but also for many thousands of tons of wheat and grain straws for which at present no use can be found. We wish the new industry every success.

## GAME PROTECTION.

This Association claims to be one of the pioneers in protecting and preserving the remnants of the wonderful fauna with which this country has been endowed by nature. In more senses than one mankind is a far more destructive agent than any wild game, any large swarms of insects, or even any disease, and mankind has run riot in this country. It was only just in time that the Kruger National Park was established. We will always take pride in the fact that we were privileged to assist in the formation of this game sanctuary, which to-day enjoys a world-wide reputation. The Association continues its efforts to protect game, particularly along the central part of the western boundary of the park. Here a number of well-known South Africans who are lovers of nature have during recent years acquired farms and have established their own sanctuaries peopled by game which crosses the boundary of the park. A much needed buffer area is thus being established between the park and the more settled parts of the country. At date 123 farms belonging to members in this area are being patrolled and supervised by our rangers, who act either in an honorary capacity or are the full-time servants of the Association. Expenses are met by those members who make use of our services.

Our rangers work in close co-operation with the South African Police, who have conveyed their thanks to us for the assistance given. The Warden of the Kruger National Park has also expressed his appreciation of the work done by the Association in the interests of game protection. From reports received, it can confidently be asserted that game has increased appreciably in the protected area since our organisation was set up eleven years ago, and that our efforts have been successful. These efforts have involved a total expenditure during the period of eleven years of £2,908, which has been met by members affected. During this period 33½ farms in the area were sold by members, of which 26 farms were purchased as game farms. The majority of these 26 farms were retained in the scheme by their new owners.



Before leaving this subject, I would draw attention to a defect which has appeared in the drafting of Section 10 of the Game Ordinance of 1935. This section deals with the wilful trespass of a person on land whilst in the possession of firearms and is one of the most important safeguards of land-owners under the Ordinance. The section has, after legal argument, been declared to be ultra vires by the Court in December, 1937. In conjunction with the Wild Life Protection Society, we have pressed for the rectification by amending legislation. We have also made representations to the proper quarters against the indiscriminate issue of shooting permits, and we have brought to the notice of the authorities the objectionable practice which seems to be gaining a footing in this game area of sub-dividing farms into a large number of portions in order to multiply the number of shooting permits which can be obtained. It is, I think, clear that there cannot be sufficient game on the sub-divided farm to justify the issue of a large number of permits, and under such circumstances the temptation to trespass on to adjoining farms may well prove irresistible.

Finally, we have drawn the attention of the Government to the unsatisfactory state of affairs which is likely to arise if the eastern boundary of Released Area No. 33 is allowed to remain as at present drawn. In parts this boundary is only two farms removed from the Kruger National Park. Whilst the Released Area in that neighbourhood abounds with game, especially lions, the soil is, so we are reliably informed, too poor and unsuitable for native occupation. To settle a native population on poor soil in close proximity to the park would be a mistake, and it would be an advantage to all concerned if the farms in question could be excised and replaced with other farms along the northern boundary of the Released Area, which are better situated.

Game preservation has, as you will appreciate, also a financial aspect. It has been conservatively estimated that, during the last three years, over 86,000 tourists have visited the Union and that these tourists have spent over £5,000,000 in the country. There is no doubt that one of the main attractions for visitors to South Africa is the unique opportunity available for seeing and studying our fauna under natural conditions.

#### LOCUSTS.

The position with regard to locusts during the coming summer is, I am sorry to say, giving rise to anxiety. As a result of summer rains, brown locusts have made their appearance in the Karroo, but they were promptly destroyed by means of poison bait, which proved most efficacious. Further outbreaks are expected after the rains which fell in the infested districts early in October, but the situation is well in hand.

Unfortunately, the position is otherwise as regards red locusts. Large swarms of this pest were observed in Southern Rhodesia in September and they are moving South. We know that since then a number of swarms have entered the Northern Transvaal and there is reason to fear that an invasion of some magnitude will take place later on. A considerable hopper infestation may therefore take place during the summer months should weather conditions be favourable. Our district agents have been warned to keep the situation under constant observation and have been instructed to take precautionary measures. Should the need arise, it will be possible at short notice to mobilise the organisation we have formed for destroying hoppers on members' farms.



## WEEDS ERADICATION.

As stated in the report, serious consideration has been given by your Committee to the various matters in connection with the Weeds Act No. 42 of 1937, which became law last year. In terms of the Act notices were served by the Government on various owners to proceed with the destruction of weeds on their farms in widely scattered districts of the Transvaal. Our members are always anxious to co-operate with the Government in matters affecting the well-being of the countryside. We have shown this on a large number of occasions by deeds and not by mere words. To instance only matters within the recent recollection of all of us, I need only refer to the action we took on our farms near the Limpopo and Bechuanaland during the epidemic of foot-and-mouth disease, when we not only shared in the cost of erecting miles of fencing, but also provided free grazing on our farms for those who had to be moved from the Limpopo. Farmers driven from their holdings by drought were temporarily accommodated with their beasts on our farms at merely nominal charges. We assisted the Government in its efforts to improve the boundaries of the Kruger National Park by transferring to the park various farms at nominal prices. When the Government went into the market in 1936 to purchase land in Released Areas, we offered all our farms in these areas to the Government. In particular, we offered a block of land in Released Area No. 25, totalling 230,000 morgen, at prices agreed by the Government valuers. This offer, if accepted, would, I venture to say, have greatly smoothed the path of the Government in its negotiations with other landholders for the purchase of their land in the same area. As you know, the offer was declined and the matter is now past history. I only refer to it in order to show that, when an emergency arises or when important work has to be done, the Association's assistance and resources have always been placed at the disposal of the country.

The Government can take for granted our willingness to co-operate and assist in the eradication of the weeds pest. We must, however, be allowed to point out that this eradication will be a difficult undertaking which can only be successfully accomplished if the campaign is undertaken with foresight and with systematic planning. If haphazard measures are adopted, a vista opens up of a great and unpardonable waste of effort and money such as we have experienced during some locust campaigns in the past. In fighting an agile enemy like the locust, when the time factor is of the utmost importance, a certain amount of wasteful improvisation cannot perhaps be altogether avoided. The matter is, however, different with the proposed destruction of weeds. This problem, I venture to say, can only be solved if thorough, far-reaching and well-prepared measures are taken. The haphazard service of notices on owners under the Act will merely entail needless expenditure of labour and money and yield no lasting results whatever. We have no doubt that the Government fully appreciate the position and we hope that an effective plan for eradicating this pest will be formulated which, in order to be successful, must be conceived on national lines.

## GENERAL.

Before concluding, I want to appeal to our members to continue to support this Association as effectively as they have done in the past. This organisation offers unique opportunities to all owners of land for the



co-ordination of their various interests and for fruitful collaboration. Our membership includes well-known corporations which, with an expenditure of much money and effort, have played a leading part in opening up the Northern Transvaal and whose names will long be remembered with respect. It also includes many less well-known pioneers who, with perhaps more slender resources but certainly with equal courage and enterprise, have shouldered their share in this great task. The valuable experience gathered from these many sources is at the disposal of all our members. Our Association has been founded for service. We pay no dividends in cash and our only reward is the satisfaction derived by our members from work well done. To earn this reward will, I am sure, continue to be the aim of your future Presidents and Executives.

Finally, I wish to record, on behalf of the Committee, our cordial appreciation of the able and efficient services rendered during the past year by our secretary, by his staff, and by all the district agents.

I now beg to move that the Executive Committee's Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 1938, laid before the meeting, be received and adopted, and I will ask Sir Llewellyn Andersson to second the motion.

Sir Llewellyn Andersson seconded the motion for the adoption of the Committee's Reports and Accounts, and referred to the comprehensive nature of the report and the usefulness to members of the information it contained. He wished to endorse the Chairman's remarks concerning the Union's cattle industry and expressed the opinion that the Government should pay more attention to the export of beef. With regard to natives and segregation, the Government must see that the natives develop their land and improve their cattle; much could be done in both directions by proper Government supervision and sympathy.

As a land association our work and objects are more connected with the farming community than anything else. He would, therefore, like to issue a warning both to them and to the Government that the latter should cease departmental interference and the attempt to run the various branches under the head of farming. Farmers were just as capable of running the business side of their affairs as commercial and industrial concerns and should not require Meat Boards, Maize Boards, Marketing Boards, etc., to see them through their troubles. It is acknowledged that, speaking generally and with few exceptions, the Union is not an Eldorado for farmers, but he considered that the Government's spoon-feeding of this section of the community was only penalising and pauperising these hard-working sons of the soil. Sir Llewellyn said he did not think he was far wrong in stating that during the last ten years the Government had assisted the farming community with the colossal sum of no less than £100 millions. He agreed fully with the policy of helping the farmer, providing such help is given with discretion and the idea of improving the farmers' lot.

Sir Llewellyn concluded with a tribute to the members of the Committee, who gave their time so freely to the Association and whose experience as business men was so invaluable to members. He also referred with appreciation to the work of the secretary and staff.

The motion for the adoption of the Reports and Accounts was carried unanimously.

There being no other nominations, under Article 25 of the Constitution, the Chairman declared the Executive Committee re-elected, as follows:—  
Lieut.-Colonel Sir Llewellyn Andersson, O.B.E., Messrs. J. Davidson, J. S. D. Dey, A. G. Douglas, R. B. Hagart, B. Moses, W. Nelson, A. P. Richter, A. H. Robertson, H. J. Summerley, R. W. Townsend, and A. Whittaker.

Mr. B. Moses said he had much pleasure in proposing the election of Mr. J. S. D. Dey as President for the ensuing year. He felt that Mr. Dey would continue to carry on the best traditions of the office and that under his able guidance the affairs of the Association would be conducted with the same efficiency as in the past. Mr. A. Whittaker seconded the motion and Mr. J. S. D. Dey was elected President for the ensuing year.

On the motion of Mr. J. Davidson, seconded by Mr. J. Saenger, Messrs. A. G. Douglas and R. W. Townsend were elected Vice-Presidents for the ensuing year.

Mr. H. Cameron proposed that Messrs. Roberts, Allsworth, Cooper Brothers and Co. be re-elected auditors of the Association for the ensuing year, the remuneration for the past audit to be 40 guineas. Mr. R. W. Townsend seconded and the motion was carried.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the retiring President, Mr. Dey congratulated Mr. Richter on his most successful tenure of office and thanked him for his comprehensive address. Owing to the high standard set by Mr. Richter he had accepted nomination as President with very great diffidence, but with the assistance of the Vice-Presidents and the Executive members he would do his best to justify the confidence reposed in him.

The proceedings then terminated.



## Farms for Sale.

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Members of the Association have a considerable number of farms for sale in various areas, the majority being situated in the Northern Districts of the Transvaal Province.

The districts in question are specially recommended for cattle raising and dairying and, in addition, many farms are well adapted for the production of maize, tobacco, cotton, citrus fruit, tree planting etc.

Applicants desiring to purchase a farm are strongly advised not to decide upon a property until they have thoroughly satisfied themselves as to its possibilities and the general condition of the locality in which it is situated. Personal careful inspection is recommended, and intercourse with practical local farmers before final selection of the farm. Valuable advice may also be obtained from the Department of Agriculture in Pretoria.

The terms and conditions upon which the farms can be purchased will be found to be very favourable and may be had on application to the owners.

The Association will be pleased to furnish all possible information on receipt of request from applicants stating their requirements.





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